

Appropriately Certified and Highly Qualified Comparison

Public School Teachers must be both appropriately certified AND highly qualified for their assigned core content position(s).

Arizona State Certification Requirements	Federal Highly Qualified Requirements
Public school teachers <i>in all areas</i> must be appropriately certified for their assigned teaching position. Charter school teachers (with the exception of special education teachers) are not required to hold an Arizona teaching certificate.	Public school teachers <i>in core content areas</i> must be highly qualified at time of hire or the time of transfer into another position. The primary requirement for a teacher is to demonstrate depth of knowledge for their assigned position and/or content area.
Arizona Teaching Certificates Early Childhood (Birth-Grade 3), Elementary (grades 1-8), Secondary (grades 7-12), Arts Education (PreK-12), Career and Technical Education, Special Education	Core Academic Content Areas Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Economics, Elementary Education, English, Foreign Languages, General Science, Geography, History, Mathematics, MS General Science, MS Language Arts/Reading, MS Mathematics, MS Social Studies, Music, Physical Science, Physics, Political Science/Government & Visual Arts
Basic Teacher Certification requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds a Bachelor's degree • Completion of a teacher preparation program <u>OR</u> hold a valid, comparable teaching certificate from another state • Pass a Professional Knowledge exam for the certificate area • Pass a Subject Knowledge exam for the certificate area 	Basic Highly Qualified Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds a Bachelor's degree AND • A valid Arizona teaching certificate (charter schools are exempt from this requirement with the exception of Special Education positions) AND
Early Childhood Certificate (Birth-Grade 3) Subject Knowledge Exam Requirement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AEPA Subject Knowledge: Early Childhood exam OR comparable out-of-state exam OR National Board Certification-Early Childhood Generalist Elementary Certificate (1-8) Certificate Subject Knowledge Exam Requirement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AEPA <u>OR</u> NES Subject Knowledge Elementary Education exam OR Comparable out-of-state exam OR National Board Certification- Middle Childhood Generalist 	Elementary (Self-Contained K-8 grades): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Passed the Elementary Subject Knowledge AEPA/NES exam OR Passed the Early Childhood Subject Knowledge AEPA/NES exam (covers K-3 only) OR Holds a valid National Board Early Childhood- Generalist Certificate (covers K-3 only) OR Earned 100 points on the AZ HOSSE for Elementary Teachers, completed no later than June 30, 2007 (documentation required) OR HQ Teacher Reciprocity
Secondary Certificate (7-12) Subject Knowledge Exam Requirement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AEPA/NES Secondary Subject Knowledge exam in the subject area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If a proficiency exam is not offered in the subject area, 24 semester hours of subject area coursework is required. If no exam is offered in a foreign language, the ACTFL exam may substitute for the 24 semester hours of foreign language coursework; OR • Comparable out-of-state exam in the 7-12 content area; OR • National Board Certification in the content area; OR • Master's degree in the content area 	Secondary (Departmentalized 7-12th grades): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Passed the appropriate AEPA/NES Subject Knowledge exam OR Holds an advanced degree in the core content area OR Holds National Board Certification in the core content area (Generalist Certificates are not accepted) OR Holds a major/24 credit hours in the core content area OR Earned 100 points in the core content area on the AZ HOSSE rubric for Middle, Junior High, High School, Visual Arts & Music no later than June 30, 2007 (documentation required) OR Highly Qualified Reciprocity (documentation required) OR Passed an ACTFL exam (for foreign languages other than Spanish, German & French)
Special Education Certificates Subject Knowledge Exam Requirement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AEPA/NES Subject Knowledge Special Education exam OR Comparable out-of-state exam in the special education area OR Master's degree in the Special Education area OR National Board Certification in the special education area. • Special Education Subject Knowledge exams do NOT meet highly qualified requirements for core academic area(s). 	Note: Please refer to the "Educator Requirements for Highly Qualified" attestation booklet for specific requirements by position.

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Current Core Content AEPA/NES Subject Knowledge Exams:

Art	German
Biology	History
Chemistry	Mathematics
Chinese	*Middle Grades English Language Arts
Early Childhood Education	*Middle Grades General Science
Earth Science	*Middle Grades Mathematics
Economics	*Middle Grades Social Science
Elementary Education Subtests I and II	Music
English Language Arts	Physics
French	Political Science/American Government
General Science	Spanish
Geography	

*Middle Grades exams cover 7 & 8 grade content only

NOTE: There is no AEPA/NES exam for Physical Science (9-12). For other foreign languages candidates must pass the appropriate ACTFL exam or have at least 24 semester hours of coursework in the language.

Special Education AEPA/NES Subject Knowledge Exams:

Elementary Education Subtests I and II (required for K-8 special education “teacher of record”)	Special Education: Learning Disability (27)
NES Special Education (replaced cross- category) (NT601)	Special Education: Mental Retardation (required for Intellectual Disability certificate) (28)
Special Education: Early Childhood (23)	Special Education: Orthopedic/Other Health Impairments (29)
Special Education: Emotional Disability (24)	Special Education: Severely & Profoundly Disabled (30)
Special Education: Hearing Impaired (26)	Special Education: Visually Impaired (32)